Saturday afternoon

Dear Anne.

Deland has sent forms which fills us of course, with glad astonishment. How great would have been Henry's satisfaction in having the house made bigger, & planning a lower room with a large glazed bow-door, so to speak, which should light the room without any other window, & which should look down into the meadow! No news. Caroline Lucie & Emma at Cambridge. The rail-road & marriage law have made great disruptions in town by the best I can learn from Mary Robbins & others. Garrison told me on Wednesday morning that he & Laura & James Boyle (who are living at Collins'?, & to whom I had given a warm commission to a tea-fight, should come up to the assault on Thursday evening & that they wanted to talk over all about the cause &c. I instantly decided what to do. I told Garrison I should be delighted to have them come, but that I did not think Brother Boyle's judgement in the cause, worth a rush, & went home & sent for Collins to come too, with his wife

Garrison & Boyle got there a deal the first, & further all they said before Collins' arrival and all they said after, I made up my mind that G & B. both would like to put Collins out of the Anti agency, & Boyle in, though they did not know so exactly as I did, what ailed them.

The talk was much on the property question & much on the Standard. They all fell upon me open-mouth, to make me edit the Standard, which I point-blankly refused. Mrs Rhed, by the way had sent me a kind official resignation through F. S. Gibbons which arrived while they were there. James said it was of no use to persuade her to remain. She was fixed with Media & Persia parmes to go in May. I wished in my heart that she had gone now & then we could have let the Standard drop for want of an editor without grieving her to death: for that is the real root of her labours under as long as she remains. James thinks David will fall naturally into her place. But Garrison greatly dreads his political inclinations & Collins thinks him too dull. But he will be a King to her. & I see no one better. At the board the next morn Collins brought up a letter from Rhebick, charging him with having insulted the Mass A.S. conv. meeting by his proceedings about the Amendment, & with having forfeited his usefulness as an agent by the property convention

&c. ended with begging Collins to resign. Garrison was very sorry that the subject was brought up, & very sorry to have any action taken upon it. Linney & I, who had resolved to die in the last ditch for universal toleration, though we owed the same duty to Bro. Collins now, that we had owed to H.C. W & Bro. S. in past times; whereupon Bro S. keenly remarked that there was a vast difference in the cases. Bro. W. & himself entertained davin notions & Bro. Collins damnable ones. There was an explosion of laughter all round the board at this, which I heartily joined in. Frances Jackson said it seemed to him the case of Mr Bishop over again some people said he could'nt & should'nt be their minister, & attend to any think else, & they said he should if he wanted to. & so, Garrison being allowed to draw up the resolution of Halfpennies, it was adopted unanimously, & then the affairs of the Standard were brought up, but nothing came of it, & I think it must probably fall soon. A very cruel thing it is for Lady Mari to make us hear such a thought as that with so much composure. Collins launched out into a diatribe against it, which I was well pleased to have Henry Bowditch hear.

So much for Ex. News. I have written the debate on the rail road bill, which you will find much fuller for than the other papers, of course. I am writing a review of James L.

Parker's sermon. Think of "Second Advent" no leader editorial. I think he cant say any thing about "Homiopathy" & "Puseyism."
When I think of what a standard I could make, (not but what a stern sense of duty keeps my hands off it. But I think I do the cause more good where I now am, than I could by the standard, though that seems the most influential post. I should save the cause 1200 a year for 2 years, without bringing the people up to the work any more, or better than I now do. & I dont think it is any object to make people think the cause can do without them. As stayers longer than two years, "this changing crowd — this common post" as the best of people must submit to be called collectively in this private communication would not be carped any longer, I think; even supposing I was not borne over by Lewis' Jaffrey in the interval. Harvey has been asked by Jon Thayer whether he would oppose the petition to Washington. The hearing before the Committee was inexpressibly dull on the part of Ellis & Lowell, & inexpressibly stupid on the part of Kendall. The Catholics were quite taken over. I wish you could see my letter book — spoiled as it is with a letter which Grandmama Lesley would emulate in vain. I have nothing further to say. & therefore remain Yours for the cause W.W.C.

MS. M.B.C. 4.14